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DOCKET NO: E0295/7130

RFG/JT/DSG

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Jeffrey Phillips, David Allen, Brett Serkez, and Peter Bouchard
Serial No: 09/471,869
Conf. No: 8044
Filed: December 23, 1999
For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR MANAGING INFORMATION
RELATED TO STORAGE ACTIVITIES OF DATA STORAGE
SYSTEMS
Examiner: C. Nguyen
Art Unit: 2171

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8(a)

The undersigned hereby certifies that this document is being placed in the United States mail with first-class postage attached, addressed to Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on the 9th day of December, 2002.

Jamini Michabhi
Signature

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

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RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed September 9, 2002, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration. To further the prosecution of this application, Applicants have addressed below each of the rejections raised in the Office Action. The application as presented is believed to be in allowable condition.

Claims 1-56 are pending in the application, of which claims 1, 7, 12, 17, 22, 26, 30, 37, 40, 44, 49, 53 and 56 are independent. No claims have been amended herein.

In paragraph 2 of the Office Action, claims 1-56 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being obvious over U.S. Patent No. 6,397,308, to Ofek et al. ("Ofek"), in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,148,415 to Kobayashi et al. ("Kobayashi"). Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections.

Ofek and Kobayashi, both alone and in combination, fail to disclose or suggest all of the features recited in each of Applicants' independent claims. Accordingly, the combination of



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Jamie Michalski
Signature

BOX NON-FEE AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

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TRANSMITTAL LETTER

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for filing are the following documents:

- ☒ Response to Office Action
- ☒ Return Receipt Postcard

If the enclosed papers are considered incomplete, the Mail Room and/or the Application Branch is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned collect at (617)720-3500, Boston, Massachusetts.

No check is enclosed. If a fee is needed, it may be charged to the account of the undersigned, Deposit Account No. 23/2825. A duplicate of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeffrey PHILLIPS et al, Applicants

By:

[Signature]
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Tel. (617) 720-3500

Docket No. E0295/7130
Dated: December 9, 2002
X (12/9/02)